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Military License Plates

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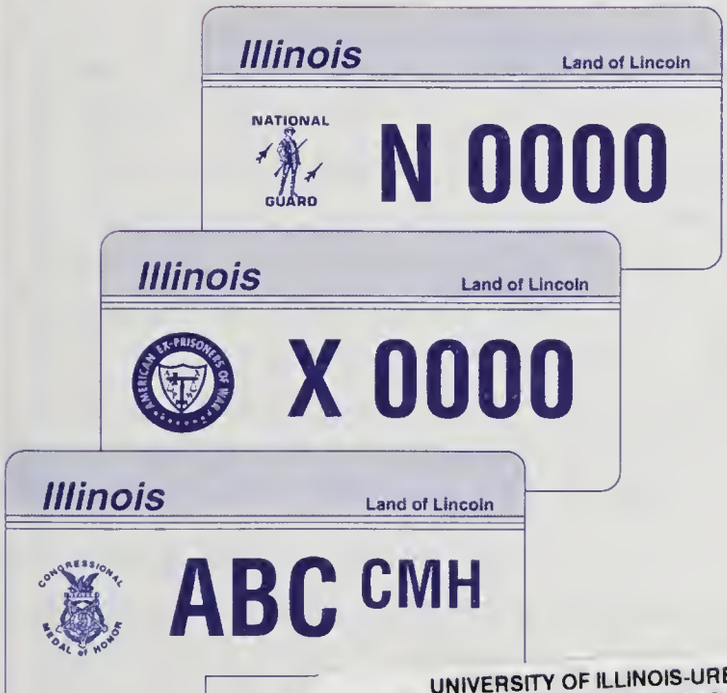

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA

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Jesse White
Secretary of State

A Message from the Secretary

Dear Friend:

Having served our country twice — first as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division, then later as a member of the Illinois National Guard, I have a unique understanding of the needs of veterans. As your new Secretary of State, I have directed my office to pay special attention to the needs of our veterans community.

Currently, my office is offering 11 different military service-related license plates. This brochure is designed to help you understand the variety of military plates we offer and to help you navigate the bureaucracy set up to administer them.

The Disabled Veteran, Ex-Prisoner of War, and Purple Heart license plates honor those who endured the pains of war while defending this nation. The Gold Star license plate honors the spouses or parents of persons who lost their lives while in the service — in peacetime or war.

The Pearl Harbor Survivor plate recognizes those who participated in the battle that brought our nation into World War II. The Korean War Veteran plate recognizes servicemen who served in Korea during the height of the conflict. The Bronze Star plate recognizes those who have distinguished themselves by heroic or meritorious service. The Universal Veterans Plate recognizes those who have sacrificed part of their lives to serve their state and their nation.

Illinois also honors those recipients of the highest award given by our country — the Congressional Medal of Honor — for their actions far beyond the call of duty.

If you qualify for any of the above special plate categories, I encourage you to obtain the recognition you rightfully deserve.

Jesse White

Secretary of State

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

Any resident of Illinois who has been awarded this medal may apply for these plates at no cost for the first set.

Required: a form from the federal government or a letter from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs verifying that the applicant received the medal.

GOLD STAR

Any Illinois resident who has been awarded the Gold Star and is the surviving spouse. If no spouse, the surviving parent; if no parent, the surviving sibling of a service member who has lost his or her life while in the U.S. Armed Forces may apply for one set of these plates.

Required: an affirmation statement attesting to receipt of the Gold Star, including the service member's name and relationship to the applicant.

BRONZE STAR

Any Illinois resident who has been awarded this medal may apply for as many sets of these plates as he or she has vehicles titled, registered or leased in his or her name.

Required: a photocopy of DD214 (discharge from the military service) indicating receipt of the pertinent medal or a "letter of verification" from the Illinois Dept. of Veterans Affairs or the federal government showing applicant's service record.

DISABLED VETERAN

Any U.S. Armed Forces veteran who has a 100 percent military disability or is eligible to receive a grant from the U.S. government toward the purchase of a vehicle may obtain DV plates. No fees are required for the first set of plates.

NOTE: Vehicles displaying DV plates may occupy areas specifically reserved for use by persons with disabilities. Parking meter fees and time limitations are also waived, except at meters, signs or other markings with time limitations of 30 minutes or less.

Required: a letter from the Dept. of Veterans Affairs verifying that you: (1) are 100 percent military service disabled, or (2) are eligible to receive a grant from the U.S. government toward

the purchase of a vehicle, or (3) have received a grant from the U.S. government toward the purchase of a vehicle.

RETIRED ARMED FORCES

Any retired member of the U.S. Armed Forces who resides in Illinois may apply for these plates.

Required: a copy of DD Form 2 (U.S. Uniformed Service I.D. Card) verifying full retirement status.

NOTE: Members of the Armed Forces Reserves or Illinois National Guard who have not reached the age of 60 must submit a copy of DD Form 2 and documentation showing transfer to retired status.

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR

Any Illinois resident, who, while a member of the United States Armed Forces, participated in the battle of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, may apply for these plates.

Required: an affirmation stating the applicant was present on the island of Oahu or aboard ship within three miles of the island at the time of the attack.

Effective Jan. 1, 1997, the widowed spouse of a Survivor of Pearl Harbor may also be issued license plates, provided the widowed spouse was married to the Pearl Harbor survivor at the time of death and single at the time of application.

EX-PRISONER OF WAR

Any U.S. citizen who is a present or former member of the U.S. Armed Forces or any of its Allies and who was a prisoner of war may apply for these plates. No fees are required for the first set of plates.

The ex-prisoner of war's name must appear as owner or co-owner on both the title and the registration application.

The widowed spouse of a former member of the U.S. Armed Forces may apply for the plates, providing that the widowed spouse: (1) was married to the ex-prisoner of war at the time the ex-prisoner of war died, **and** (2) is single at the time of the application.

Required: a form from the federal government or a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs verifying your ex-prisoner of war status.

PURPLE HEART

Any U. S. citizen who resides in Illinois and has been awarded the Purple Heart by a branch of the Armed Forces may apply for these plates.

The Purple Heart recipient may apply for as many sets of these plates as he or she has vehicles titled, registered or leased in his or her name.

The recipient also may apply the circuit breaker to $24 registration fees only.

Required: a copy of the Discharge from Military Service (DD214) **or** a letter of verification showing your status as a Purple Heart recipient from the Department of Veterans Affairs **or** the federal government.

ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD AND ARMED FORCES RESERVES

Any active member of the Illinois National Guard or Armed Forces Reserves who resides in Illinois and has a 12-month term of enlistment may apply for these plates.

The Reservist or National Guard member may apply for as many sets of these plates as he or she has vehicles titled, registered or leased in his or her name.

Required: a legible and current photocopy of the DD Form 2 identification card (United States Uniformed Service Identification Card) showing guard status.

KOREAN WAR VETERAN

Issued to any Illinois resident who participated in the U.S. Armed Forces between June 27, 1950, and July 27, 1954, within the territorial limits of Korea or in waters immediately adjacent thereto or has been issued the Korean War Service Medal.

The Medal recipient may apply for as many sets of Korean War Veteran plates as he or she has vehicles titled, registered or leased in his or her name. The recipient also may apply the Circuit Breaker to $48 registration fees only.

Required: a photocopy of DD214 (discharge from the military service) indicating applicant received a Korean War Service Medal (KSM) or a "letter of verification" from the Illinois Dept. of

Veterans Affairs or the federal government showing applicant's service record.

UNIVERSAL VETERAN

Issued to any Illinois resident who participated in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Required: A Copy of discharge from the military service (DD214) or a letter of verification showing military service from the Department of Veterans' Affairs or the federal government.

Note: These plates offer the option of showing your branch of service, and/or a theater of action. The decals for branch of service, and/or theater of action can be acquired from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Adjutant-Quartermaster or the American Legion, Department of the Adjutant.

If requesting the POW/MIA license plate no special documentation is required.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

If your present Illinois license plates **expire within 60 days** and you have not renewed your registration, please submit the following items:

1. A preprinted renewal application or a properly completed registration application.
2. The documentation required for the plate category for which you are applying.
3. Proof of ownership.
4. Annual registration fee of $78 (applicable only to Armed Forces Reserves, Retired Armed Forces, Illinois National Guard, Pearl Harbor Survivor and Purple Heart plates).
5. A fee of $15 in addition to the $78 registration fee (applicable only to Gold Star, Korean War Veteran, Bronze Star and Universal Veterans license plates). *NOTE: An additional $2 fee is required upon renewal of Gold Star, Korean War Veteran, Bronze Star and Universal Veteran plates.*

If your current license plates **do not expire within 60 days,** you must apply for a reclassification by submitting the following:

1. A properly completed registration application.
2. The documentation required for the plate category for which you are applying.
3. Your current registration card.
4. An $14 replacement fee (plus any additional applicable original issuance fees).

BASIC FACTS

- All titles, transfers, duplicate registration cards and replacement license plates are subject to standard fees.
- Military license plates may be displayed on the following types of vehicles: passenger cars, trucks and vans weighing 8,000 pounds or less.
- Korean War Veteran license plates may also be displayed on Recreational Vehicles.
- Only one set of Disabled Veteran, Congressional Medal of Honor and Ex-Prisoner of War license plates may be issued at "no fee." Additional sets may be purchased at the annual registration fee of $78.
- Purple Heart and Korean War Veteran applicants who claim and receive a grant under the Senior Citizens Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief and Pharmaceutical Assistance Act (Circuit Breaker) may apply for a 50 percent reduction in the regular annual registration fee.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For further information regarding military license plates, contact:

Secretary of State
Non-Standard Plates Section
501 S. 2nd St., Room 539
Springfield, IL 62756

Armed Forces Reserves:	(217) 785-1697
Congressional Medal of Honor:	(217) 785-4175
Disabled Veterans:	(217) 785-4175
Ex-Prisoner of War:	(217) 785-4175
Gold Star:	(217) 785-4175
Illinois National Guard:	(217) 785-1697
Korean War Veteran:	(217) 782-2884
Purple Heart:	(217) 785-4175
Retired Armed Forces:	(217) 785-1697

Pearl Harbor Survivor: (217) 785-4175
Bronze Star (217) 785-4175
Universal Veteran (217) 782-2470

TOLL-FREE: (800) 252-8980
Mon. — Fri., 8 a.m. — 8 p.m.
Sat., 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

HISPANIC LINE: (312) 793-1338/1339
Mon. — Fri., 8:30 a.m. — 5 p.m.

For further information regarding documentation for Disabled Veteran and Ex-Prisoner of War plates, contact:

Illinois Department of
Veterans Affairs
833 S. Spring
Springfield, IL 62794-9432
(217) 782-3418

Veterans Administration
Regional Office
536 S. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60605
(312) 663-5519

For further information regarding documentation for Purple Heart or Korean War Veteran plates, contact:

Illinois Department of
Veterans Affairs
833 S. Spring
Springfield, IL 62794-9432
(217) 782-3418

National Personnel Records Center
9700 Page Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132

MANDATORY VEHICLE INSURANCE

All motor vehicles registered and operated in Illinois must be covered by liability insurance—insurance that covers the property damage and/or injuries you may cause others in an accident.

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois
October 1999 — 10M — GA 316
VSD-274.10